



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

SPED 10-01

MEMORANDUM

TO: Special Education Director

FROM: **Colette Chapman**, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Exceptional Student Services
Leila Williams, Ph.D., Alternate Assessment Coordinator

DATE: January 11, 2010

SUBJECT: **AIMS A Update** – Multiple Choice Reset and No Response Options

The opportunity to add students to the AIMS A online program has started. All PEAs must enter their students by January 31, 2010. If you have students new to your district or program after the deadline, you will be able to add students into the AIMS A database.

Teachers have been informed that they may request the “Multiple Choice Reset” before administering Arizona’s Instrument to Measure Standards Alternate (AIMS A). “Multiple Choice Reset” is used to enhance accessibility *only* for those students who are unable to *physically* select an answer choice using the computer’s keyboard or other device. It permits teachers to enter in a student’s response to AIMS A multiple choice items based on the student’s indicated response choice. The “No Response” option was included in the “Multiple Choice Reset” and can only be accessed by viewing **every** multiple choice item. Students who require the “No Response” option typically are students in a persistent state; they lack critical cognitive functions, are motionless, make no meaningful eye contact, and may not react to external stimuli. When requesting the “Multiple Choice Reset/No Response” option, Special Education Directors *must* submit the “Multiple Choice Reset/No Response” form.

The testing window begins February 15, 2010 and ends March 31, 2010. Prior to administering AIMS A to students, teachers should download the Performance Task (PT) and Rater Items (RI). It is critical to have all necessary materials prepared and ready to effectively administer the assessment. Unlike last year, for 2010 there are two sets of Performance Tasks and two sets of Rater Items. To continually enhance AIMS A, it is critical to field test new items. ADE has randomly included field test PT and RI across the grades and content. However, the field test items may not be at every grade or content.

If you have any questions contact **Dr. Leila Williams** at 602-364-2811.